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WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

PITCAIRN

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

CONTENTS

		Paragraphs	Page
I.	GENERAL	1	2
II.	CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS	2	2
III.	ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS	3 - 7	2
IV.	FUTURE STATUS OF THE TERRITORY	8 - 9	2

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PITCAIRN 1/

I. GENERAL

1. General information on Pitcairn is contained in the previous working paper prepared by the Secretariat (A/AC.109/2012, paras. 1-2). According to the information provided by the administering Power, on 1 June 1996 the population of Pitcairn was 58.

II. CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

2. A summary of constitutional developments in the Territory is contained in a previous working paper prepared by the Secretariat (A/AC.109/1179, paras. 4-8).

III. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

3. Information on the economic, social and educational conditions in the Territory is contained in the previous working paper prepared by the Secretariat (A/AC.109/2012, paras. 4-26).

4. The principal sources of income for the islanders are stamp sales and revenue from interest and dividends. The annual budget for Pitcairn is approximately NZ$ 910,000. Pitcairn's annual expenditure consistently exceeds revenues by about NZ$ 240,000.

5. There is no taxation on Pitcairn and the private economy is based on subsistence agriculture, fishing and the sale of handicrafts, mainly to passing ships. The population of the island is self-employed, but allowances and wages are paid to members of the community who participate in local government activities and who perform communal services.

6. Education is free and compulsory for all children between 5 and 15 years of age. Instruction is in English and is based on the New Zealand standard curriculum.

7. According to previous reports of the administering Power, there are no social problems of a racial or cultural nature on Pitcairn. Women and men have equal status; there are personal and corporate freedoms and Pitcairn's legislation meets the requirements of United Nations conventions on human rights.

IV. FUTURE STATUS OF THE TERRITORY

Consideration by the General Assembly

8. A summary of the position of the administering Power towards its dependent Territories is contained in previous working papers prepared by the Secretariat (A/AC.109/1137, para. 17; A/AC.109/1180, paras. 30-36). For statements made

during the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, see A/AC.109/2043, paragraphs 41-43.

9. On 6 December 1995, the General Assembly adopted resolution 50/38 B, a consolidated resolution on 12 Non-Self-Governing Territories, section VIII of which was specifically devoted to Pitcairn.

Notes

1/ The information contained in this paper has been derived from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations, on 11 June 1996 for the period 1994/95.